

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

All claims and their status are listed below.

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the materials provided have at least one level of difficulty, and wherein the time period is based on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

40. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the time period depends on the materials provided, and wherein waiting for a user input waits for a user input entered via a keyboard or position-pointing device.

41. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

42. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device, the method comprising:

providing, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting, which is in accordance with instructions of the computer program, comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received via the computing device to the first window within the time period.

45. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises providing to be presented a question that would not have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the time period.

46. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, wherein the waiting includes polling a device driver for a user input.

47. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 46, wherein the device driver is a device driver of a position-pointing device.

48-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching comprises increasing a stimulation level of the materials to be presented.

51. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, wherein the switching includes providing to be presented again at least a portion of materials already presented to the user.

52-55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of
difficulty,
wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the
materials, and
wherein waiting for a user input waits for a physical input from a user to the
computing device.

57. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the time period also depends on a reference response time of the user,
and
wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session
where materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computing device.

58-59. (Canceled)

60. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44, further
comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.

61. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the switching comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to
be presented, and
wherein the switching further comprises providing a question to be presented.

62. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,
wherein the switching comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to
be presented, and
wherein the changing the pace of presentation of materials includes reducing the
speed of presentation of materials to be presented.

63. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 44,

wherein the switching comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to be presented, and

wherein the switching further comprises providing to be presented again at least a portion of materials already presented to the user.

64. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 44, further comprising providing options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within the time period.

65. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, wherein the question is both displayed on the display and ~~is~~ orally presented.

66. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 45, further comprising providing praises if the answer to the question is correct.

67. (Cancelled)

68. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 45, further comprising providing to be presented again at least a portion of materials already presented to the user to help the user learn the subject if the answer to the question is not correct.

69-70. (Cancelled)

71. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device, the method comprising:

providing, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

with no user input to the first window, as indicated by monitoring for a user input via the computing device to the first window, within a time period, but with one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting of the materials comprises changing a pace of presentation of materials to be presented.

72. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 71, wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of difficulty, and

wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

73. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 72, wherein the adjusting of the materials comprises presenting a question.

74. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 71, wherein the adjusting of the materials comprises providing options for the user to determine how to proceed in the learning process.

75. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 71 further comprising assessing the user's understanding in the subject.

76. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 64, wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of difficulty, and

wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

77. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 64,

wherein the time period depends on a reference response time of the user, and
wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session
where materials on a subject were presented to the user via a computing device.

78. (Previously presented) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium including instructions of a computer program for controlling a computing device coupled to a display to assist a user to learn a subject by a method comprising:

providing materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display;

waiting for a user input entered to the first window; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs to the second window during the time period, adjusting materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the time period.

79. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method to assist a user to learn a subject via a display coupled to a computing device comprising:

providing materials on the subject to be presented, in accordance with instructions of a computer program executed by at least one computer processor, to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting, in accordance with instructions of the computer program, materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises providing a question to be presented.

80. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user is provided with options to determine how to proceed in the learning process, upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within the time period.

81-110. (Canceled)

111. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one level of difficulty, and

wherein the time period depends on the at least one level of difficulty of the materials.

112. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on the materials provided to be presented.

113. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on the user.

114. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the time period depends on a reference response time of the user, and wherein the reference response time is determined based on a previous session where materials on a subject were presented to the user.

115. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is on the subject.

116. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is not on the subject.

117. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user's answer to the question is not used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

118. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the user's answer to the question is used to assess the user's understanding in the subject.

119. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the question is orally presented.

120. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the adjusting further comprises adjusting an audio effect.

121. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the adjusting further comprises adjusting a visual effect.

122. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the at least one computer processor is the computing device.

123. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein the at least one computer processor is coupled to the computing device via a network, which includes at least another computing device.

124. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 123, wherein the network includes the Internet.

125. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, further comprising providing materials related to the question to be presented, if the answer to the question is not correct.

126. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79,
wherein the materials provided to be presented have at least one difficulty level,
and

wherein the method further comprises providing materials with a difficulty level lower than the at least one difficulty level to be presented, if the answer to the question is not correct.

127. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 79, wherein whether the answer to the question is correct or not does not affect the materials to be presented to the user.

128. (Previously presented) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium including instructions of a computer program for controlling a computing device coupled to a display to assist a user to learn a subject by a method comprising:

providing materials on the subject to be presented to the user via a first window that is at least partially viewable via the display, where a second window is also at least partially viewable via the display; and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a time period, as determined by waiting for a user input entered via the computing device to the first window, and being aware of one or more user inputs via the computing device to the second window during the time period, adjusting materials for presentation on the subject,

wherein the adjusting comprises providing a question to be presented.

129. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 44, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

130. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 78, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set.

131. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 79, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set in accordance with instructions of the computer program.

132. (Original) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium as recited in claim 128, wherein the method further comprises allowing the time period to be set.

133. (Original) A computing apparatus for assisting a user to learn a subject via a display, which is coupled to the computing apparatus, the computing apparatus comprising:

an input device configured to receive a user input to a first window or to space outside of the first window,

wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via the display,

wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display; and

a processor configured to

cause materials on the subject to be presented to the user via the first window,

determine whether a user input is entered via the input device to the first window or to the space outside the first window, and

upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a preset time period, as determined by the processor, and being aware of one or more user inputs having been entered via the input device to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period, cause the materials for presentation on the subject to be adjusted,

wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received via the input device to the first window within the preset time period.

134. (Original) A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect.

135. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

136. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises changing the size of an image of the materials that would have been presented.

137. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the input device comprises a keyboard or position-pointing device.

138. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the input device comprises a camera.

139. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133,
wherein the apparatus retrieves and uses an attribute of the user, and
wherein the attribute is determined based on a previous session where materials on a subject were presented to the user via the apparatus.

140. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a request asking the user to perform a function.

141. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 133, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a question asking the user to answer.

142. (Original)A computing apparatus as recited in claim 138,
wherein the switching comprises adjusting an audio effect,
wherein the apparatus retrieves and uses an attribute of the user, and
wherein the attribute is determined based on a previous session where materials on a subject were presented to the user via the apparatus.

143. (New) A non-transitory computer readable medium including at least executable computer program code tangibly stored therein to assist a user to learn a subject, said computer readable medium comprising:

- computer program code for receiving a user input to a first window or to space outside of the first window,

 - wherein the first window is at least partially viewable via a display,

 - wherein at least some of the space outside of the first window is viewable via the display, and

 - wherein the space outside of the first window includes a second window that is at least partially viewable via the display;

- computer program code for causing materials on the subject to be presented to the user via the first window;

- computer program code for determining whether a user input is entered to the first window or to the space outside the first window; and

- computer program code for causing the materials for presentation on the subject to be adjusted, upon failure to receive a user input to the first window within a preset time period, and being aware of one or more user inputs having been entered to the space outside of the first window during the preset time period,

 - wherein the adjusting comprises switching to alternative materials that are different from materials that would have been presented if a user input was received to the first window within the preset time period.

144. (New) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises adjusting a visual effect.

145. (New) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises changing the size of an image of the materials that would have been presented.

146. (New) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a request asking the user to perform a function.

147. (New) A non-transitory computer readable medium as recited in claim 143, wherein the switching comprises causing to be provided, a question asking the user to answer.